

Sub 1
A2
= 6. (Amended) A circuit comprising: an amplifier producing a DC-offset and noise having an input for receiving an input signal from an input of the circuit, and an output for delivering an output signal to an output of the circuit; means for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier; and feedback means for further reducing the DC-offset produced by the amplifier further including switching means, responsive to the feedback means, for short-circuiting the input signal under control of a start-up signal; and means for adding back a sampled output signal to the amplifier for adapting the DC-offset of the amplifier.

Sub 3
A3
= 12. (Amended) A circuit comprising: an amplifier adapted to amplify an input signal and produce a DC-offset and noise and to deliver an output signal to an output of the circuit; a circuit adapted to respond to the amplifier by reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier; and a feedback circuit adapted to further reduce the DC-offset produced by the amplifier wherein the feedback circuit includes a switch circuit adapted to short-circuit the input signal under control of a start-up signal; and an adder circuit adapted to add back a sampled output signal to the amplifier and for adapting the DC-offset of the amplifier.

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action indicated that: claims 1-2 and 8-10 stand rejected under Section 102(b) as being anticipated by *Barbier et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,048,574); and claims 3 and 11 stand rejected under Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Barbier et al.* Claims 4-7 and 12-14 are objected to, as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 4, 6, and 12 have been amended to include the subject matter of their base claims. Applicant submits that the amendment is sufficient to overcome the objection to the claims, and they are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 102(b) rejection for failure to state a *prima facie* case of anticipation. In view of the discussion in the '574 reference at column 5, line 54

through column 6, line 4 regarding Figure 5b, Applicant submits that no rationale has been presented as contemplated by 35 U.S.C. §132 to corroborate correspondence between the claimed invention and the '574 reference, including, *e.g.*, the alleged "feedback means (H)." Applicant fails to understand the correlation between the clock (H) of Figure 5b of the '574 reference and the feedback means of the instant invention.

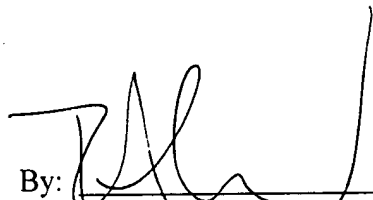
Further, the Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed as no motivation has been presented for modifying the '574 reference. The Office Action makes broad conclusory statements regarding the use of the '574 reference for setting both choppers to high frequencies without providing evidence of motivation of why one skilled in the art would have been motivated to modify the '574 reference to arrive at the instant invention. Recent case law indicates that evidence of the reasons one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the reference and modify it should be specifically identified and shown by some objective teaching in the prior art leading to the modification. *See, e.g., In re Dembiczak*, 175 F.3d 994, 50 USPQ2d 1614 (Fed. Cir. 1999). The Office Action has neither indicated reasons why one skilled in the art would be motivated to modify the '574 reference, nor provided any evidence of factual teachings, suggestions or incentives from the prior art that lead to the modification. Therefore, Applicant requests that the Section 103(a) rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that each of the claims is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, along with a favorable response, are earnestly requested.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (PENA.022C1) in the amount of \$252.00 for three additional independent claims.

Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 651/686-6633.

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CLAIMS SECTION SHOWING MARKED UP CHANGES

4. (*Amended*) A circuit [as claimed in claim 1,] comprising: an amplifier producing a DC-offset and noise having an input for receiving an input signal from an input of the circuit, and an output for delivering an output signal to an output of the circuit; means for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier; and feedback means for further reducing the DC-offset produced by the amplifier wherein the further feedback means for further reducing the DC-offset produced by the amplifier comprises switching means for short-circuiting the input signal under control of a start-up signal; and means for adding back a sampled output signal to the amplifier for adapting the DC-offset of the amplifier.

6. (*Amended*) A circuit [as claimed in claim 1,] comprising: an amplifier producing a DC-offset and noise having an input for receiving an input signal from an input of the circuit, and an output for delivering an output signal to an output of the circuit; means for reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier; and feedback means for further reducing the DC-offset produced by the amplifier further including switching means, responsive to the feedback means, for short-circuiting the input signal under control of a start-up signal; and means for adding back a sampled output signal to the amplifier for adapting the DC-offset of the amplifier.

12. (*Amended*) A circuit [as claimed in claim 9,] comprising: an amplifier adapted to amplify an input signal and produce a DC-offset and noise and to deliver an output signal to an output of the circuit; a circuit adapted to respond to the amplifier by reducing the DC-offset and the noise produced by the amplifier; and a feedback circuit adapted to further reduce the DC-offset produced by the amplifier wherein the feedback circuit includes a switch circuit adapted to short-circuit the input signal under control of a start-up signal; and an adder circuit adapted to add back a sampled output signal to the amplifier and for adapting the DC-offset of the amplifier.